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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un examines Sinuiju reconstruction plan

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, examined and guided the master plan for the construction of Sinuiju City, together with the leading officials of Party, administrative and design organs of North Phyongan Province.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee; Jo Yong Won and Kim Yong Su, deputy department directors of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Chang Son and Ma Won Chun, officials of the State Affairs Commission; Jong Kyong Il, chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial People's Committee; Ri Thae Il, vice-chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial Party Committee; Ri Jae Nam, chairman of the Sinuiju



City Party Committee; Ri Jong Ryol, chairman of the Sinuiju City People's Committee; and officials of relevant institutions including the North Phyongan Provincial City Designing Office.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un learned about the implementation of the lifetime instructions of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on the construction of Sinuiju and examined the master plan for the construction of the city and a diorama of the future city, before setting forth the tasks and ways for sprucing up the city

in line with the requirements of the present times.

He instructed officials to form the city centre deep up to the South Sinuiju area with the statues of the President and the Chairman at the city's central square as the axis, arrange high-rise apartment houses and provincial- and city-level public buildings around the city centre to produce a three-dimensional effect, dispose the residential areas with high-rise apartment buildings and skyscrapers along the central axis and thoroughfare of the city and the banks of the Amnok River splendidly

in terms of formative arts and build many parks in the residential areas in order to turn Sinuiju into a city in the park.

In order to build Sinuiju as befits a border city of the country, it is needed to build many modern and magnificent structures rich in national colour, he said, adding that such public buildings as theatre, cinema, sports village, ice rink and sci-tech library and such service facilities as hotel and department store should be laid out in a rational way and built

wonderfully to suit the aesthetic taste of the times.

He also indicated the direction of sprucing up the existing industrial areas and remodelling the railway station of the city and Uiju Airport in a modern way.

He noted that Sinuiju construction on which the President and the Chairman had given instructions dozens of times is a very important task for implementing their behests and the project should come to fruition in some years to come.

Compiled from KCNA

ECONOMY

Economic sectors keep up growth

Production sees steady growth in various industrial sectors.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex produced generating equipment for hydropower stations and ventilators, and the Ryongsong Machine Complex turned out dozens of highly efficient check valves for forging and hundreds of kinds of compressor parts.

The Pyongyang Electric Cable Factory 326, Pyongyang Bearing Factory, Ryangchaek Bearing Factory and Kyongsong Insulator Factory also produced various kinds of electric wires, bearings and insulators in a short time. The Ryongsong Machine Complex processed over 50 kinds of parts needed for fertilizer production equipment

and manufactured speed reducers and electric carts.

The Anju Insulator Factory and the Kumsong Tractor Factory ratchet up the production of insulating materials and parts of chemical equipment.

The Ragwon Machine Complex has made innovations in the production of major equipment to be supplied to various economic

sectors. While carrying out the plan for the production of casting materials and those for standardized articles ahead of schedule, it has made marked progress in manufacturing bucket, engine framework and parts of hydraulic excavator.

Electric power generation has increased at power plants in South Phyongan Province.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex introduced a variety of valuable technical innovation plans into production and scrupulously organized the maintenance and technical management of generating facilities to increase the output of each generator. The Sunchon

Thermal Power Station operated all equipment at full capacity by regularly overhauling generating equipment and employing in production various innovative technical plans including the combustion stabilization technique based on high-temperature air combustion technology. The Chongchongang Thermal Power Station has also exceeded its power generation target every month.

The rail transport sector has also overfulfilled the freight transportation plan for major construction projects by more

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Kim Jong Un oversees test of a new tactical weapon system



Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander

of the Korean People's Army, visited the test site of the Academy of Defence Science and supervised a newly developed ultramodern tactical

weapon test.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, Ri Pyong Chol, Ri Jong Sik, Jo Yong Won, Kim Yong Su,

Kim Chang Son and Pak Jong Chon.

After seeing the power of the tactical weapon, the Supreme Leader was so excited that he said the defence scientists and munitions industrial workers did another great job to build up the country's defence capability and the weapon system, whose development had been initiated and directed step by step by Chairman Kim Jong Il, was born at last. The weapon is just a posthumous weapon and he missed the Chairman very much as he saw the successful test, he noted.

He highly praised the officials, scientists, technicians and munitions industrial workers for successfully conducting the test of an ultramodern tactical weapon, for which the Party has waited so much while attaching importance to it.

He expressed great satisfaction, saying the successful test serves as another striking demonstration of the validity of the Party policy of prioritizing defence science and technology and the rapidly developing defence capability of the country and marks a turning point in radically building up the combat capacity of the Korean People's Army.

Compiled from KCNA

LEADING ARTICLE

Nation speeds up drive for five-year strategy

The five-year strategy for national economic development unveiled at the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea is to hit the grand target of a powerful socialist country building by reenergizing the overall national economy and laying foundations for its sustainable development.

The Korean people have made a great deal of achievements in the process of implementing the strategy.

Juche-orientation projects were completed in the metal industry and a great upsurge was brought about in light industry, agriculture and other economic sectors. Ryomyong Street and other monumental structures rose up, while valuable research findings were made to contribute to the country's economic development and the improvement of the people's standard of living.

Holding aloft the slogan "Let us vigorously conduct the drive for increased production to attain the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic development!", the Korean people turned out in the new mass movement aimed at putting spurs to the grand

onward march for economic construction on the basis of the achievements made, experience gained and lessons drawn in the past.

The initiation of the increased production drive marked a turning point in further accelerating the all-people onward march geared to implementing the decision of the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

It is a tradition of the DPRK to perform miracles by dint of all-out general offensive at every watershed of the revolution.

Another rounds of 70-day and 200-day campaigns organized in 2016 after the WPK Seventh Congress were important occasions for demonstrating the might of the independent national economy and opening up a broad avenue towards a powerful socialist country building.

Such a heroic spirit has been kept up until now.

The builders completed the Koam-Tapchon railway, first marine railway in the country, in a short period and the workers of the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory and the Bus Repair Shop brought out new types of trolley

bus and tram car. Samjiyon County and the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area are being spruced up day after day.

All the economic sectors and units are now exploring all potentials available in the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude while finding shortcuts to the normalization and revitalization of production in science and technology.

The February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine, Sunchon Thermal Power Station, Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory, western area public building company and Munchon City Foodstuff Factory were the first to cross the finishing line of the first stage of the drive for increased production for attaining the goals of the five-year strategy, followed by many other units fulfilling annual economic plans in succession.

The spirit and mettle of the DPRK, which strives to hasten a rosy future by hitting the targets of the five-year strategy, is soaring high with the flames of the increased production drive getting fiercer as the days go by.

By Pak Song Min PT

INSPECTION

Premier inspects various units

Premier Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected various units.

At the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory and the Pyongyang Bag Factory, he said it is important to raise the accuracy of finishing outer surface of the bus body and improve the cultural refinement of rubber products and all fittings in the

production of trolley buses of new type.

He stressed the need to increase the proportion of locally available raw and other materials and give precedence to the supply of them in producing schoolbags.

He also visited the Sunchon Phosphate Fertilizer Factory, the venue of the 29th National Exhibition of Consumer Goods and others.

Compiled from KCNA



Premier Pak Pong Ju (foreground right) inspects the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory.

PRODUCTION

New-type trolley buses roll off assembly line

The Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory speeds up the production of a new type of trolley buses.

Technical specifications of the new-type trolley bus Chollima-321 have been updated as compared to those of conventional ones.

The bus body in the form of fairing gives a sense of stability and swiftness and is designed to provide convenience for the travellers and running. The bus is modernly equipped in terms of technology to provide the rapid transport of many passengers, including a real-time monitoring system for line and battery voltage and speed. In particular, a new type of electric motor installed in the bus reduces the consumption of electricity, but increases traction power.

The factory has put production processes on a modern footing and applied assembly line to the general assembly of trolley bus.

The workpiece production workshop remodelled an induction furnace and forging heating furnace by applying advanced technology to produce enough workpieces for iron parts whose varieties have been increased. The process of processing parts increases the speed and quality of processing by introducing the CNC technology into processing machines and installing more efficient plasma cutters.

The electric motor processing process completed the sectoral production process for producing different kinds

of electric motors in a serial way and introduced advanced manufacturing technologies to raise the lifespan and working efficiency of motors. Shortly ago, technicians developed the vacuum impregnation technology which uses varnish with high insulation class, making it possible to guarantee the lifespan of traction motors of trolley buses at above 30 years.

All assembly works for dozens of vehicles in a working cycle are conducted at the general trolley bus assembly process with hundreds of metres of assembly line sections, including the framing of internal and external walls, painting, fabrication of bus windows and installation of fittings and furnishings.

The trolley bus performance testing device developed by the technicians is capable of judging the running efficiency of trolley buses and heavy-weight vehicles as well.

"The new type of trolley bus is the aggregate of the machine-building industry, which is completed through the combination of tens of thousands of parts in thousands of kinds. Nearly most of the parts are produced in our factory," said Won Yong Nam, a technical worker of the factory.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



CHAE MYONG RIM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Trolley buses are assembled at the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Factory.

Economy: Industries see steady growth

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than 1.2 times.

The Jongju Locomotive Corps correctly examined the technical conditions of railways in its running section and employed a rational operating method accordingly, thereby transporting freight at over 150 percent. The West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps also carries more freight by carefully organizing the operation of locomotives and pushing locomotive repair in a three-dimensional way. Myongdang, Taegon, Phyeongchon, Phothae and other freight stations are also playing an important role

in increasing freight transport by rationally organizing engine dispatch and reducing the unloading time of goods wagons.

The builders of the Orangchon Power Station pushed forward with the Changpho dam construction for Unit 4 in a three-dimensional way while concentrating on tunnelling the waterway to finish the concrete-tamping of the first-stage cofferdam and dam foundations. They have maintained the same spirit to step up the second-stage cofferdam project.

The Puhung Cement Factory conducted a 300 000-cubic-metre blasting successfully, providing a sure guarantee for putting cement production on normal track on a high level.



KIM KWANG RIM / THE RODONG SINMUN

The Chollima Steel Complex boosts output amid the nationwide drive for increased production.

SCHOOLBAG

Factory improves quality of bags



HAM YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A variety of satchels are produced at the Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Bag Factory.

The Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Bag Factory is not big, but is well-known throughout the country for producing many quality bags.

A characteristic of the factory is that all its employees are students of Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry Online. Officials including the manager and chief engineer are students of the online course and it is customary for new employees to enrol on the course.

Officials and employees study science and technology for more than two hours after work every evening in the sci-tech learning space which is connected with the national computer network. Tens of thousands of pieces of latest local and foreign sci-tech data related to bag production are available in the database built in the learning space.

The factory introduced into production a business management support system, computer-aided bag design program and automatic knife-edge cutter management method and made such equipment as three hot water injector by its own efforts to steadily increase

the speed of bag production and improve the quality of products.

It also has positively encouraged employees to produce new bag designs. Therefore, each of them comes up with at least five designs every month to be examined and selected for production. Now the factory makes some 200 kinds of bags.

"Integration of science and technology with production has enabled us to not only reduce the production cost and increase the kinds of products but also improve their quality," said Ri Chang Ryul, chief engineer of the factory. And he proudly said that his factory won the first place at the national bag exhibition of bag factories held in early November.

The factory has established an integrated manufacturing system over all production processes to carry on technical management and control production at each production process in the integrated control room and put business management on an IT basis through the intranet.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

TECHNOLOGY

Various inverters come out to satisfy local needs

The Pyongyang Power Electronic Technology Centre is focusing on the development of inverter technology.

It is known as one of the excellent inverter technology research groups in the country with a 20-year history.

It specializes in R&D, production and dissemination of the power conversion devices based on inverter technology.

In recent years the researchers of the centre have developed a variety of power electronic equipment urgently needed in different sectors of the national economy to help them attain the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic

development.

Among them are an inverter for speed control of high- and low-voltage AC motors, driving gear of permanent magnet synchronous motor, high-frequency induction heating device and induction agitator needed for the continuous ingot-steelmaking process.

In particular, the speed control inverter of high- and low-voltage AC motors was not developed by technology transfer or joint venture with other countries, but by 100 percent local technology and was introduced into the construction of the Sci-Tech Complex, Munsu Water Park

and other buildings.

The induction agitators are very helpful in increasing production at industrial establishments in metallurgical and machine-building industries as they work to make even the metallurgical texture of molten iron and far lengthen the lifetime of equipment.

This year the centre developed a modularized solar panel inverter needed for the use of renewable energy to set up a solar-powered generating system, which can be connected to the national power grid in parallel while providing any power output.

It has already established a development basis abroad to make its way into the world market through technical cooperation such as joint research and development with various countries.

By Kim Ryong Jin PT

PROFILE

Agronomist introduces SRI into local farming

The system of rice intensification (SRI) is drawing nationwide interest in the DPRK.

The system, whose research has been undertaken by a team headed by Mun Myong Chol, PhD and chief of a lab at the Rice Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science, is recognized globally as a resource-saving farming method as it ensures a high crop yield while saving a great deal of seed, labour and water.

It was not an easy job to apply the SRI to suit the local conditions several years ago.

Because unlike other countries where the SRI has widely been introduced, Korea lacks heat resources during the rice cultivation period and has not much fertile land. And farmers' experience in and attachment to the traditional farming method constituted a direct challenge to the introduction of a new system.

After years-long painstaking research based on the past experience, Mun adapted the SRI to the local weather, climate and soil conditions.

He and his research team solved many problems arising in introducing the system, including the growing of rice seedlings, transplanting, water management, fertilizer application and weeding, and expanded the SRI-applied acreage to more than 10 000 hectares.

He chose the Chonsam

Cooperative Farm in Anbyon County of Kangwon Province for a pilot scheme, where there are more difficulties in agricultural production than other places due to unfavourable natural and climatic conditions. And he organized a demonstration, a series of workshops and a presentation there. They were very helpful and farmers turned to the new rice growing method.

"At first, I could not believe what he said because he asked farmers to plant only one seedling instead of four to six per bunch they planted in the past," said An Yong Thae, chief engineer of the Kyosong Cooperative Farm in Munchon City. "And he also asked them to draw water in and out of the fields occasionally. I worried that it would spoil the farming. No one wanted to apply the method to their fields, so I had to set a sandy field, the most infertile land, as the experimental plot. But to our surprise, the seedlings began to grow thicker and healthier after a month and the field's per-hectare yield doubled that in the previous year."



CHOE MI GYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Mun Myong Chol (right) works on a new rice cultivation system.

Ri Myong Gwan, chairman of the Namchang Cooperative Farm Management Board in Munchon, said that the SRI greatly helped reduce the labour used for farm work such as the preparation for and management of rice-seedling beds and transplantation as it needs 30 times less seeds, 30 times less plastic sheet and 20-50 percent less water.

"I will devote all my energy to making our country fully self-sufficient in food," said Mun Myong Chol.

He is now working to strengthen cooperation with NGOs including the Italian Development Cooperation Office and international agricultural institutes.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

R&D

Sci-tech hits

Various IT products developed

The Sobaeksan Corporation has recently developed various IT products.

The new technical products include the maritime command system, trains' security service support system, planes' condition and troubleshooting system, driving alarm and lead-acid battery reproducer.

The maritime command system is designed to comprehensively command fishing at fishery stations while directly monitoring the fishing boats in the process of fishing or on sail.

It provides all the ships of fishery stations at sea with information about weather, water temperature, typhoon warning and others and makes it possible to command fishing and other operations.

The driving alarm judges the driving of a driver and gives a

timely warning signal to the driver in case of doze to prevent traffic accidents.

Equipped with an advanced face detection technology, the alarm works only when the vehicle moves, minimizing power consumption, and realizes high speed in image processing, and the rate of doze detection is over 95 percent.

The lead-acid battery reproducer slowly builds up the efficiency of sulphatized battery up to 80-90 percent.

The products were highly appreciated at different sci-tech exhibitions this year. Particularly, the corporation was chosen as one of the top ten informatization model units at the recent national exhibition of IT achievements-2018 and its maritime command system as one of the top ten IT products.

3D applied to foot measuring device

Researchers of the Laser Institute of the State Academy of Sciences have developed a three-dimensional foot measuring device to bring about a drastic turn in shoes production.

The device is designed to accurately measure the contours of foot in a short time without contact by using laser, optical information processing and computer control technologies and the precision mechanical engineering technique.

The core of the device is the 3D foot measuring program based on the projection of laser beams, and it generally took

five or six years to develop the program.

However, the researchers have succeeded in developing it in only half a year.

The accuracy of the new measuring device is 50μm, its measuring time is only 40 seconds and its production cost is only a quarter of that of the same performance on sale in the international market.

Now it proves effective in different footwear factories such as Ryuwon Footwear Factory which specializes in the production of trainers.

By Jong Chol PT

ENERGY-SAVING

Green materials applied to sauna

Researchers have come up with a far infrared local radiation device for sauna and treatment and a lagging panel made of vermiculite.

The new developments have dramatically boosted the efficiency of traditional sauna.

According to Ri Yong Nam, director of the Ryongaksan Tech Trading Company and key developer of the products, the radiation device installed in a sauna radiates far infrared to sore spots of the body and produces prompt and remarkable therapeutic effects. And though the temperature of sauna is 70-80°C, it brings about the same healing effects as in a sauna with a temperature of 100°C, and as the time of preheating the sauna is much shorter, it can reduce power consumption by 40%.

The patented device is recognized not only at home but

in different countries including China and it is winning growing favour with users at many public service facilities in Pyongyang.

The vermiculite lagging panel is intended for the walls of sauna.

It comes in various shapes. Vermiculite has high heatproof, insulating and soundproof functions and a great air-conditioning ability as it absorbs harmful positive ion and keeps anion that is good for health. If the panels are used in covering sauna walls, a great deal of wood can be saved.

These green products were highly appreciated at the recent national exhibition of sci-tech achievements in the field of finishing building materials and the Pyongyang international green building materials and furniture exhibition.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

FISH PICKLING

Kumsanpho products grow popular

Many people say that pickled shrimp with green pepper is a good harmony of natural flavours of pepper and shrimp and starchy pickled shrimp highlights the relish of marine products after tasting various kinds of pickled shrimp, one of the most popular products of the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory.

Its pickled fish products are popular with a wide range of consumers, men and women, old and young, for their unique tastes and high nutritive value.

They are on sale in shops in Pyongyang and other parts of the country including Pothongmun Street Fish and Meat Shop and Pyongyang Department Store No. 1.

The Korean people have used pickled dishes in their dietary life for a long time.

Pickled dishes made with

with boiled rice but also spices of other dishes.

Sauces made from liquid, byproduct of the aging of pickled dishes have fine colours and singular tastes and they are favoured by many families as a good seasoning.

They are very good for health in terms of nutritive value as they have a high content of amino acids that are produced when the protein in fish flesh dissolves, said an official concerned.

Compiled from KCNA



Packages of pickled fish roll off the production line at the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory.

KCNA

ONLINE LEARNING

Leading the way in online sci-tech dissemination

Every sci-tech learning space is connected to the Sci-Tech Complex, the national hub of dissemination of latest science and technology.

The complex runs an online education system for the diffusers so that they can acquire comprehensive knowledge of informatics and independently solve problems arising in the management of the learning spaces and the dissemination practice.

The website for the system has such tabs as study course, general knowledge about and practice of sci-tech diffusion and notification.

The diffusers who enter the system take a short course on such compulsory subjects as informatics, e-library and computer application and such

elective subjects as information system design, information analysis and database.

Thousands of sci-tech diffusers take the online course and the number of users is constantly increasing.

"The teaching programme is very serviceable as it gives clear-cut answers to the problems arising in the management of the learning space in our enterprise," said a sci-tech diffuser.

According to Jang Kwang Chol, head of the complex's training school, the institution is intended for sci-tech diffusers throughout the country and the content of online education will be updated and more diverse.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



Lots of people gain online access to the database of the Sci-Tech Complex.

KCNA

Popular products

New cosmetics

New products developed by the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory in the DPRK are now gaining popularity.

Demand for hair gel, fruit-flavor aerosol perfume and anti-wrinkle cream is on the increase.

Toilet sets and bags are popular among maidens and women in their thirties.

Lipsticks of various colors,

foundation, eye shadow and other cosmetics are well received not only by artistes but also ordinary women in their forties and fifties.

Besides, functional toilet soaps with medicinal effect and new treatment cosmetics that are efficacious against freckles are popular among men and women.

Dried flowers

The demand for dried flower products produced by the Dried Flower Workshop of the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute is increasing among the local people.

According to Ri Hyong Sik, chief of the workshop, the technology of making dried flowers won a national patent.

Technicians in their twenties and thirties are manufacturing various products with dried flowers.

On display at the exhibition hall of the workshop are products made with dried flowers including bouquet, floral

basket, flowerpot, ornamental box for souvenir, greeting card and clock frame.

Products made with dried flowers remind people of craftworks as the dried flowers preserve their original colors and flexibility.

It is a growing trend for housewives to decorate the interior of their houses with dried flowers.

Many people purchase these products on the occasion of holiday, birthday and marriage ceremony.

Compiled from KCNA

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother is devoted to her disabled son

Yun Hye Ran likes to see a video clip showing her son in an artistic performance.

Once she felt hopeless about the future of her son because his two legs and one arm were paralysed three months after his birth due to an incurable disease, thinking what he could do or how he would live in the future. But today he is reciting his own poem on a theatre stage to touch the heartstrings of all people.

Her son, Ri Kuk Chol, is a writer at the Korean artistic association of the disabled.

"Unabated love and instructions of my mother were the source of encouragement," Ri says to well-wishers.

Yun was offered a number of plum jobs at the time as she was proficient in a foreign language, but she gave them up and devoted her all to the treatment and future of her crippled son.

She did not mind going even a hundred kilometres to have good medicines for her son and worked hard for his health recovery as she consulted doctors almost every day.

Whenever she got enervated as her son did not get better, she braced herself up again backed up by the sincerity shown by medical workers who encouraged her and spared no pains for the treatment of her son, neighbours who showed her fraternal affection, and

travellers she met on her journey.

When her son was old enough to go to school, she brought him to primary and middle schools by a three-wheeler. After she was told by her son's teacher in charge that Kuk Chol had a special talent for composition, she brought nursery rhymes and novels to him and took him to the zoo, amusement parks and other scenic attractions to develop his talents.

She was always the first in reading his compositions and she often had a writing contest to encourage him.

Though she was busy taking care of him like a baby, she studied herself medical science and literature. Such painstaking efforts grew more with his growth.

Thanks to her untiring efforts, Kuk Chol won a dozen literature prizes at national literature production contests, including the juvenile literature prize, and published 20 literary works. In September, he came first at the national mass literary works prize contest held in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the DPRK by presenting a selection of



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Yun Hye Ran (left) takes care of her son in a wheelchair.

poems "We live under the blue-and-red national flag".

"Now you can return the favour even a little to the benefits of the socialist system you have enjoyed as a disabled boy more than others and to the warm affection shown by many well-wishers," Yun often says to her son. "I'm very pleased to see that you are able to repay the favour and contribute something to society."

By Kim Rye Yong PT

Magnet for flower lovers

November 16 is Mother's Day.

Every Mother's Day, flower shops are crowded with customers buying flowers for their mothers. Children's affections for their mothers are expressed in different ways, but many of them buy flowers as most mothers are happy with fragrant flowers.

Most of customers of flower shops were young people that day this year. Among such shops in Pyongyang, that of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital had exceptionally large purchasers.

It is also attributable to the fact that lots of babies are born at the hospital every day. So, saleswomen were busy that day.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Customers buy flowers for their mothers at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital flower shop.

"Today is hectic for us. We are providing service from morning to evening. Some people have bought flowers on their way to work," said assistant Pak Hyang Mi.

The shop sold dozens of kinds of flowers such as rose, tulip, chrysanthemum, lily, zinnia and *Tagetes erecta*. Customers purchased flowers, bouquets and flower baskets according to their mothers' tastes.

Carnation outsold other flowers.

"This flower preserves its fragrance and beauty even in a vase for a long time. So my mother loves it most," said Kang Mi Gyong, student of Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies, as she bought different varieties of the flower.

"I also received bouquets from my children. I always live among flowers, but as I was given flower bunches today, I felt the happiness and pride as a mother. I hope my and all other children in the world keep the love for their mothers and other people and nature as well," said shop manageress Kim Myong Hui.

By Pang Un Ju PT

HEALTHCARE

Forty years for the good of local folks

"I just wanted to relieve the pain of patients in my home town who were suffering from necrotic diseases," said Kim Tu Chol, deputy director in charge of technical affairs of the Thongchon County People's Hospital in Kangwon Province.

Necrosis, or the diver's palsy, was an endemic in the county where a lot of people are engaged in fishing.

However, a growing number of patients are recovering from the disease thanks to Kim's devotion.

Kim started his career as a doctor at the hospital after graduating from Hamhung University of Medicine in 1986. He worked both as a surgeon and a physician in Koryo medicine to consolidate his medical knowledge in clinical practice.

In recognition of his capability, utmost sincerity for patients and treatment successes, he was promoted to deputy director of the hospital in 1999.

His primary concern was how to treat aseptic necrosis which was prevalent among locals.

He enrolled on the post-graduate course of then Pyongyang University of Medicine and intensified research into the disease while delving into latest foreign medical data.

A variety of efficient therapies including stem cell and artificial joint transplantations were widely in use across the world, but he decided to opt for a more practical method.

It was the simple decompression.

The important thing was to select proper medicinal substances and decide their mixing ratio. And the most important thing was to rationally compose the substances according to different symptoms of cases.

After choosing efficacious medicinal substances that are found anywhere in the country, he pushed ahead with treatment and research in parallel, perfecting his own treatment methods one by one.

"My illness got so serious that I could not sleep due to a pain and it was also difficult to go to the bathroom and relieve myself," said fisherman Mo Chun Bong who had been suffering from late primary left capital aseptic necrosis after receiving treatment from Kim. "The thought that I could no longer move the lower part of my body in my forties drove me to despair. But when I started to receive treatment from the deputy director, I felt less pain and went to the toilet at ease. After the second round of treatment, I slept comfortably without feeling any pain at night and I even stood up on my own."

Choe Sang Chol, a worker at Pothan Senior Middle School in Thongchon County who suffered from secondary right and left capital aseptic necrosis, could not go out without a



SONG YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kim Tu Chol (right) tells a patient about his symptoms.

wheelchair. After taking seven rounds of Kim's treatment, he could walk on his own legs, free from wheelchair and walking stick.

A round of treatment takes two to three months, but the therapy is effective and economical. So more and more patients are now calling on him beyond the boundary of the province. Though it has been only a few years since he began treating necrosis, the number of patients who recovered from their illness amounts to well over a hundred.

During his nearly forty-year-long career as a medical worker, he brought out over 30 valuable inventions and contrivances. Sometimes, he is asked if he is willing to work at central or other large hospitals. However, he does not want to leave his native place.

By Om Ryong PT

SHOW

National IT exhibition attracts growing interest

The 29th national exhibition of IT achievements took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang between November 7 and 14.

On display there were more than 800 pieces of achievements in information science and technology presented by several hundred participating units including ministries and national agencies.

The exhibition was held, divided into such panels as of operating system and information communication network, artificial intelligence and information processing, modernization and automation of production process, sci-tech computing and interpretation simulation, and sectoral information system.

The cutting-edge information technology achievements, notably AI-related programs developed by professional IT research and development units, drew particular attention of the visitors.

An open speech recognition program with which to control computers with any audio command presented by

Kim Il Sung University and an iris health analysis program which can output health indicators through close iris screening by the math institute of the State Academy of Sciences were highly appreciated by jury members.

Valuable information technology achievements also came from the fields of education, science and sports as well as different sectors of the national economy.

The Taedong River flood management simulation system, fish pond water flow optimization support program, reinforced concrete structure lifetime and reinforcement calculation program, online education system and long-distance radiotherapy project planning support program were praised as of high IT level and practical significance.

Lectures were given on the global trend of IT development and local IT achievements during the exhibition.

By Han Jong Ho PT



KCNA

The 29th national exhibition of IT achievements is held at the Sci-Tech Complex.

HONOUR

Former ITF president remembered on his centenary

Wreaths were laid at the grave of Choe Hong Hui, ex-president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, at the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri on Friday to mark the centenary of his birth.

The wreath-laying ceremony was attended by ITF President Ri Yong Son, its leading officials, overseas Korean and foreign martial artists from different countries, Kim Kyong Ho, chairman of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee (KTC), officials concerned and bereaved family members of Choe.

Placed before the grave were wreaths in the names of the ITF, KTC, the International Martial Arts Games Committee, the Committee for Aiding Overseas Compatriots of Korea and the Overseas Koreans' Affairs

Administration.

The participants paid a silent tribute to the memory of Choe.

The ITF president and its

leading officials and foreign and overseas Korean Taekwon-Doists visited Mangyongdae, birthplace of President



PHOTOS BY KCNA

Wreaths are laid at the grave of former ITF president Choe Hong Hui to mark his 100th birthday.

Kim Il Sung, on November 11.

Earlier, they toured the Taekwon-Do Holy House, Pyongyang Orphanage, the Central Zoo and other places.

Meanwhile, Taekwon-Doists of the DPRK and various other countries gave a demonstration performance at the Taekwon-Do Hall.

A joint friendship gathering with the participants in the

events for commemorating the 100th birth anniversary of Choe Hong Hui was held at the Taekwon-Do Hall on Monday.

Colourful amusement games and a dance took place there.

On the same day the DPRK Cabinet hosted a reception at Okryu Restaurant in honour of the participants in the events.

Compiled from KCNA



Leading ITF officials look round the photos of its key members at the Taekwon-Do Holy House in Pyongyang.

US-S. KOREA

'Working team' likely to stall inter-Korean peace process

On October 30, the US Department of State announced that it agreed with the south Korean authorities to organize a "US-south Korea working team" so as to discuss the matters related to north Korea policy, implementation of sanctions and inter-Korean cooperation.

Confirming the fact the following day, the Blue House said that it is an organization geared to ensuring smoother understanding with the US in the north issue.

The south Korean media and experts, however, commented that the team is nothing but a "containment mechanism" of the US to keep watch on and interfere in inter-Korean discussions on a constant basis

and that the US would ratchet up its interference in and control of north-south cooperation projects by means of it.

The formation of the working team is a revelation of the US' sinister intention to monitor and control the issue of inter-Korean relations on the spot, not content with finding fault with every move for improved inter-Korean relations and giving directives.

The US' aim of its establishment is to firmly shackle south Korea to the framework of the "US-south Korea alliance", prevent it from taking part in inter-Korean cooperation projects on a constant basis and thwart them at any time if it is displeased with them.

The problem is the behaviour of the south Korean authorities who are placing themselves under the yoke of subordination by blindly following the arrogant and impertinent moves of the US.

If the interference of outsiders is tolerated, it will be impossible to improve north-south relations as desired and demanded by the Koreans and the nation's joint efforts for peace and prosperity will be unable to bear due fruit.

The US had better keep in mind that if it is hell-bent on interference and tyranny while barring the north-south relationship, it will only inflame anti-US sentiments.

By Kim Yong Chan PT

Q&A

Ulsa five-point treaty illegal and invalid

On November 17 1905 Japan forged the Ulsa five-point treaty.

Japan took advantage of the treaty to strip the government of the feudal Joseon dynasty of its diplomatic right and establish a residency-general in Korea, thereby seizing its actual power.

The *Pyongyang Times* reporter Song Jong Ho interviewed Ri Kwang Nam, section chief of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, about the illegality of the Ulsa five-point treaty.

Would you tell me about the circumstances of the forgery of the treaty?

Japan had long dreamed of establishing colonial rule in Korea. Immediately after winning the Russo-Japanese war in 1905, it brought into Korea a majority of its troops dispatched to the war to encircle the Korean royal palace ring upon ring while deploying them across the country.

After creating a horrible atmosphere by shipping in huge aggression forces, it forged the treaty.

What is the illegality of this treaty?

A: The principle of equality was not applied to the Ulsa five-point treaty in the "negotiations" and "signing". The treaty was not concluded by free choice but forged by force after striking fear into and threatening Emperor Kojong and the ministers of the feudal Joseon dynasty.

Generally, the conclusion of important treaties between states should take the form that necessitates a commission

of full power and ratification instrument of a state representative. Such a form was universal in concluding international treaties in modern times. But the treaty drafted by Japan was not ratified by Emperor Kojong as he refused it. Therefore, Japan shamelessly forged it in a summary form which did not require the commission of full power and ratification instrument, in utter disregard of the law on the conclusion of treaty. Therefore, the Ulsa five-point treaty has no signature of the emperor nor stamped state seal, an important procedure for treaty effectuation.

The Vienna convention on the law on treaty, a modern international law, defines that a treaty which is concluded by forcing a state and state representative is invalid.

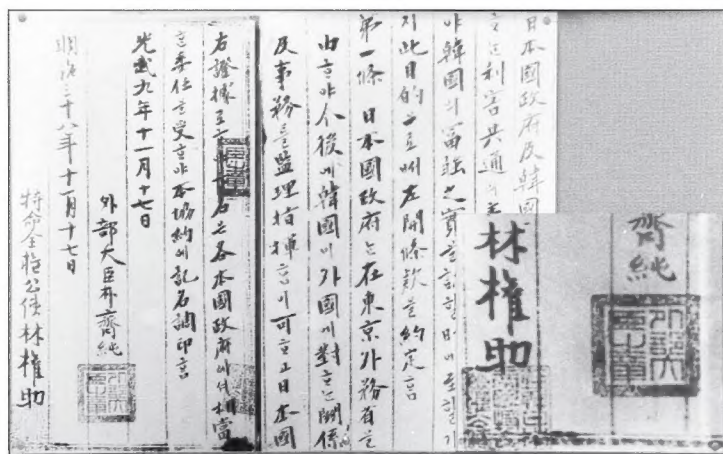
The Harvard report in 1935 denounced the Ulsa five-point treaty as illegal, citing its forced conclusion involving Japanese troops as the reason. In a report submitted to the

15th UN International Law Commission in 1963 the treaty was also denounced as a "result of coercion or threat" and declared "absolutely invalid".

Japan, however, tries in every way to evade the legal responsibility for its colonial rule in Korea and refuses to make reparations for the sinful past while arguing for the legality of the treaty.

A: No country except Japan seized the sovereign rights of the other country without hesitation and mercilessly trampled underfoot the destiny of a nation by using a forged "treaty" without name. But it does not yet admit, nor apologize, nor make reparations for the class-A crimes it committed in Korea in the past. Instead, it seeks for a chance to invade Korea and Asia, fully obsessed with overseas reinvasion.

The Korean people vividly remember the past crimes committed by Japan and will finally settle accounts with it.



Part of the original copy of the Ulsa five-point treaty.

SOLIDARITY

Full support given to Palestine's cause

November 15 is a significant day for the Palestinian people. That day in 1988 the 19th extraordinary session of the Palestinian National Council declared the founding of the State of Palestine with al-Quds as its capital and adopted a declaration of independence.

The Palestinians hardened their will to establish their independent state that day, and have ever since made proactive efforts to this end.

In September 1993 the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel signed the declaration on the principle of autonomy of the Palestinians. The agreement on the enforcement of their self-government in Gaza Strip and Jericho was signed in May 1994, and in July the autonomous government of Palestine was established. The country secured observer status at the UN in November 2012 and hoisted its flag at the UN headquarters with the publication of the draft of its first constitution in September 2015.

The Palestinians strive to achieve national unity as they wage a protracted struggle against the Israeli moves to permanently occupy its territory. On October 12 2017 the National Liberation Movement of Palestine (Fatah) and the Palestinian Islamic Resistance (Hamas) agreed to put a full stop to discord that had persisted for so long. It was a great success made in the struggle for the founding of their independent state.

But the path ahead of the Palestinian people is not smooth.

Late last year the US President issued an executive order to move the Israel-based American embassy in Tel Aviv to al-Quds. And the US removed it there and held its inaugural ceremony on May 14 this year to mark the founding anniversary of the State of Israel.

Israel passed a unified Jerusalem law through parliament early this year with an eye to fully controlling al-Quds and adopted a Jewish national state law in July to legalize its racist policy. And it cracked down on Palestinians who staged a demonstration against this.

The international community is offering active support and encouragement to the Palestinians.

Statements were adopted in support of their struggle at the international conference on Mideast peace in January last year and the sixth international conference to support the Palestinians in Iran's Teheran in February.

And when Israel adopted the Jewish national state law this year, statements denouncing its racist manoeuvres were published by many countries and international organizations.

The DPRK also expresses full support and solidarity to the Palestinian people in their just struggle.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

JAPAN

Bent on military buildup

According to Japan's Kyodo News on October 25, the Japanese Ministry of Defence announced that it would dispatch members of the Ground Self-Defence Force to Vietnam between November and December so as to train the service personnel of Vietnam and other neighbouring countries on the pretext of aiding UN peacekeeping activities.

This is the first time for Japan to dispatch its SDF troops to Asian countries.

Reuters reported on November 3 that the US, Japan and Canada would stage joint military exercises.

The joint military drill codenamed "Keen Sword" will be staged on an unprecedentedly large scale by involving 57 000 troops including the US nuclear carrier *Ronald Reagan*, Japanese destroyers and Canadian warships, which is five times greater in the

number of personnel than those mobilized in 2016.

It reportedly includes aerial warfare, take-off practice, anti-ballistic missile defence training and anti-submarine warfare.

The UK, France and Australia will take part in the drill as observers.

Pundits commented that the joint drill targets China which is reinforcing its military strength in the South China Sea.

Expressing "apprehension" about the security of Asia, Japan dispatched its biggest warship *Kaga* to the Philippines, Sri Lanka, India, Singapore and other countries in the India-Pacific region within two months this year.

Such a busy military move of Japan is arousing the wariness of neighbouring countries.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

TAEKWON-DO

Strict coach grooms young world champions

A coach embracing Mun Jong Ryong last August caught the eyes of spectators. Mun won the men's 55kg individual sparring at the 13th youth and 8th veteran Taekwon-Do world championships.

The coach was Kim Sung Yol (pictured), instructor at juvenile Taekwon-Do school of the South Hamgyong Provincial Taekwon-Do Club who coached the DPRK national team aged 14-15 in the championships.

Kim stole the show on domestic front when he was 14 years old, but was later appointed the coach of the above-mentioned club at the age of 21 due to a joint damage during training.

Therefore, he hoped young Taekwon-Do practitioners would realize his dream he had failed to achieve when he was a player.

He devoted his all to improving his qualifications as a coach and training players.

Full grasp of players and scientific coaching are his motto.

He had a comprehensive knowledge of physical and technical abilities of players



THE PYONGYANG TIMES

and even their sentiments as well and gave them a scientific training on that basis.

In the course of this, he completed an education and training system conducive to increasing the intensity of training to meet the individual features of players, introduced a number of programs that are helpful to scientifically confirming their burden, speed perception and mentality and applying them to matches, and invented a general upper body strength training instrument and other physical training

equipment.

He makes exact demands on his players so that they can perfect their own special techniques.

He always tells them to make their special techniques their instinct as it will be too late when they take an action after thinking.

He often kept vigil for a few days for the perfection of players' special techniques and checked the records of them every week to give them advices helpful for the perfection of their special techniques.

"He is strict with his players in training. However, as his demand mirrors unusual affection and expectations of us, we willingly accepted it and rushed towards triumph," said Mun Jong Ryong.

A coach who has trained three winners of junior Taekwon-Do world championships including Mun and over ten national Taekwon-Do title holders, Kim is now winning the respects and love of players and fellow coaches as a competent man.

By Jong Tang Song PT

SPORTS

Civil servants meet for table-tennis contest

Table-tennis matches of officials of the commissions, ministries and national agencies took place at the Handball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street from November 6 to 13.

More than 800 men and women players from at least 90 units, divided into four groups,

competed on a knockout basis.

The Central Bank, the Foreign Trade Bank of the DPRK, Daesong Bank and the Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House took first place respectively in each group.

Compiled from KCNA



KCNA

A scene of the annual table tennis competition of civil servants in Pyongyang.

FLOWER

National flower Magnolia

The national flower of Korea is magnolia.

Magnolia blossom has long been likened to lotus on tree.

Sinjungdong-gukyojisungnam, or Revised Handbook of Korean Geography published in 1560, says that magnolia flowers bloom in thick forests in summer to send forth a sweet fragrance.

President Kim Il Sung said that magnolia blossoms can claim to be the king of

flowers as they are beautiful, aromatic and viable and produce fruits as well.

Magnolia is a deciduous shrub or tall tree that grows naturally in all parts of Korea, except northern highlands.

It grows two to five metres high and its blossoms come into full bloom between late May and mid-June.

A big, fragrant and beautiful white flower which is 8-10 centimetres in diameter comes out at the end of the branch in the order of the growth of fresh branch, and the flower looks



Full-blown magnolia flowers.

very beautiful thanks to good harmony of colours of its petals, stamens and pistils.

In autumn, magnolia bears elliptic pod fruits, each of which is five to six centimetres long and three to five centimetres in diameter. When it ripens, it splits apart to send out two red seeds and the seeds drop after hanging down from the strings that look like white cotton thread.

Magnolia propagates from seeds, grafting or cutting.

By Ri Sang Il PT

HEALTH FOOD

Koryo medicinal food therapy boasts long tradition

Among the intangible cultural heritage elements of Korea is Koryo medicinal dietary cure.

It is one of the traditional Koryo medical treatment methods by which the Korean people have protected their health and treated illnesses through their daily dietary life from olden times.

The fact that medicinal foods have widely been used by the Korean people for a long time is proven by the story about the origin of yakpab, or glutinous rice mixed with sugar, dates, chestnuts, pine-nuts, sesame

oil, and others in *Samgukyusa* (History of the Three Kingdoms) and other historical records on hundreds of kinds of food therapies in such classics of Koryo medicine as *Hyangyakjipsongbang* (Collection of Remedies of Traditional Medicine of Korea), *Uibangryuchwi* (Manual of Traditional Medicine of Korea) and *Tonguibogam* (Encyclopaedia of Traditional Medicine of Korea).

Many wild plants and fruits, marine products and domestic and wild animals have been used as main ingredients of medicinal foods like cooked rice, gruel, soup, broth, tea, liquor and roast. The ingredients include insam, *Codonopsis lanceolata*, fruit of *Schizandra*

chinensis, ginger, kelp, terrapin, carp, honey, chestnut, pine-nut, walnut, acorn, chicken, beef, octopus, squid and others from the mountains and fields, rivers and seas.

Typical medicinal foods are yakpab (sweet rice dish), yakjuk (medicinal gruel) prepared with parsley or date, pine-nut, walnut, abalone, oyster and others, chicken soup boiled with insam, loach, oxtail and carp soups, steamed chicken, rabbit or carp stuffed with medicinal materials, various fruits or medicinal plants preserved in honey like ginger, insam and lotus root, fried cakes made from wheat-flour, oil and honey, patterned savoury cake and medicinal wine.

Thanks to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on the protection of national heritage, the Koryo medicinal food therapy is widely used in hospitals and families for promoting public health.

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KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Yakpab (sweet rice dish).

